

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 IO-13 OMB-01 EB-08 AID-05 HA-05

ACDA-12 TRSY-02 /132 W

-----068579 280538Z /17

R 271101Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8151

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 5269

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: XA, NI, MR, AG, MO

SUBJECT: MAURITANIAN STATE VISIT TO NIGERIA

REF: (A) LAGOS 1622, (B) LAGOS 1541

1. MAURITANIAN PRESIDENT MOKTAR OULD DADDAH LEFT LAGOS ON APRIL 23 AT THE CONCLUSION OF A SEVEN-DAY STATE VISIT TO NIGERIA WHICH INCLUDED ATTENDANCE AT THE ECOWAS HEADS OF STATE MEETING. BEFORE THE ECOWAS MEETING, DADDAH MADE A THREE-DAY SWING THROUGH KADUNA, OWERRI AND PORT HARCOURT IN WHAT WAS DESCRIBED BY THE PRESS AS A 'LOW-PROFILE' TOUR OF NIGERIAN EDUCATIONAL AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. IN A FINAL COMMUNIQUE, THE TWO CHIEFS OF STATE NOTED THEIR AGREEMENT ON THE USUAL LIST OF HONILIES INCLUDING SUPPORT FOR ECOWAS, COMMITMENT TO THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, REJECTION OF THE INTERNAL  
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SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA AND SUPPORT FOR SWAPO IN NAMIBIA.

2. THE QUESTION OF THE WESTERN SAHARA WAS NO DOUBT DISCUSSED IN THE BILATERAL TALKS BETWEEN DADDAH AND OBASANJO. HOWEVER, IT WAS NOT MENTIONED IN THE COMMUNIQUE EXCEPT INDIRECTLY IN A BLAND PARAGRAPH

WHICH 'EXPRESSED THEIR CONCERN OVER THE EXISTENCE  
IN AFRICA OF TENSION AREA, AND INVITED THE  
COUNTRIES CONCERNED TO COME TOGETHER TO SETTLE  
THEIR DIFFERENCES BY PEACEFUL MEANS IN ACCORDANCE  
WITH THE SPIRIT AND CHARTER OF THE ORGANIZATION  
OF AFRICAN UNITY.'

3. DADDAH FACED SOME UNFRIENDLY QUESTIONING OVER  
THE WESTERN SAHARA AT AN AIRPORT DEPARTURE PRESS  
CONFERENCE. HE DEFENDED HIMSELF BY SAYING,  
'I AM NOT GUILTY OF EXPANSIONIST ACTIVITIES.  
NEITHER CAN I BE ACCUSED OF ANNEXING THE POLISARIO  
PEOPLE.' DADDAH ADDED, 'I WANT OUR DETRACTORS TO  
NOTE THAT WE IN MAURITANIA HAVE ONLY RECOVERED  
OUR LAND AND PEOPLE WHO WERE FORCED TO BE CUT  
AWAY FROM US BY THE COLONIALISTS.'

4. COMMENT: NIGERIAN POLICY ON THE WESTERN  
SAHARA (REFTELS) HAS BEEN A COMBINATION OF GENERAL  
SUPPORT FOR THE POLISARIO AND A LOW LEVEL OF  
INTEREST IN THE PROBLEM IN ANY CASE. WE WOULD  
ASSUME THEREFORE THAT THE PROBLEM DOES NOT FIGURE  
PROMINENTLY IN NIGERIAN-MAURITANIAN RELATIONS. END  
COMMENT.  
WYMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, COMMUNIQUE, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Film Number:** D780181-0774  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 apr 2005  
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**Subject:** MAURITANIAN STATE VISIT TO NIGERIA  
**TAGS:** OVIP, PEPR, XA, NI, MR, AG, MO, (DADDAH, MOKTAR OULD)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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